



MINNESOTA
STATE DEMOGRAPHIC CENTER



POPULATION NOTES

Minnesota's Children in the 2000 Census

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- Minnesota's children are more diverse than the total population and more so than in 1990
- The population of children grew more slowly than the total population in the 1990s
- More children live with one parent
- Fewer children live below the poverty line
- Minority children are less likely to graduate from high school

Number of minority children doubles in 1990s

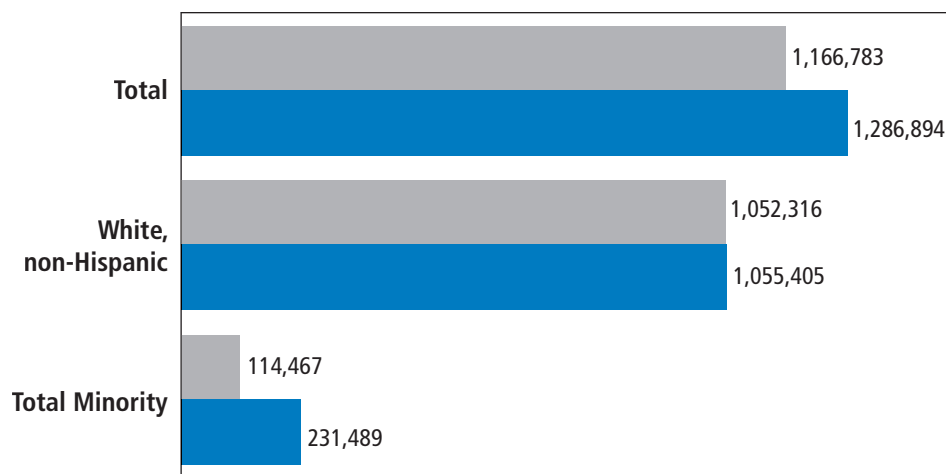
The number of children under age 18 increased 10.3 percent (or 120,111) between 1990

and 2000 — a rate of growth slightly slower than that of the entire population. The number of minority children (children who reported Hispanic or Latino ethnicity and/or non-white race) doubled between 1990 and 2000, increasing by 117,022 and accounting for most of the net increase in the number of children. In 1990, minority children made up 9.8 percent of Minnesota's children; in 2000, the percentage was 18 percent, more than 6 points higher than the total population.

There are a number of reasons for the greater diversity of Minnesota's children. Minority populations in Minnesota are much younger than the white,

non-Hispanic population. Median age for non-white and Latino populations are in the mid-20s compared with 37.2 for the white, non-Hispanic population. Migration to Minnesota from other states and other countries increased the minority population in the 1990s, and migrants tend to be younger adults often with children. Family size for minority populations is larger, and fertility rates are higher for minority women (See *Births, Total Fertility Rates on the Rise*, Martha McMurry, *Population Notes*, May 2002, <http://www.demography.state.mn.us/PopNotes/Fertility/FertilityPopnotes.pdf>). All of these factors contribute to higher proportions of minority

Increased number of children is mostly minority children



Thousands

■ 1990 ■ 2000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

children. More babies are born to foreign-born mothers each year. In the most recent data (2002) from the Minnesota Department of Health, 15.5 percent of babies were born to foreign-born mothers: 4 percent to Mexican-born mothers, and about 1.5 percent to both Laotian-born and Somali-born mothers. In 1990, less than 6 percent of babies had foreign-born mothers.

Nationally, 40 percent of children are Hispanic or non-white. Hispanic children make up 18.3 percent of the nation's children and black children account for another 14.9 percent. In Minnesota, black children were 6.6 percent of all children, Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander children 5.2 percent, Hispanic or Latino 4.3 percent, and American Indian or Alaska Native 2.5 percent. All of these percentages are for children who reported race alone or in combination. 3.4 percent of Minnesota's children reported more than one race.

Minority children are concentrated in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, but many rural counties have seen tremendous increases in minority population and especially children. In seven Minnesota counties in 2000, the proportion of minority children exceeded the state average. More than half of the children (53.7 percent) in Mahnom County were minority. Ramsey (41.3 percent), Beltrami (37.8 percent), Hennepin (32.8 percent), Watonwan (27.8 percent), Nobles (25.5 percent) and Cass (23.3 percent) counties all had proportions of minority children higher than the state average of 18 percent.

In Hennepin County, the number of minority children increased 35 percent (40,932) between 1990 and 2000, with half of the increase occurring in Minneapolis. Ramsey County saw the number of minority children increase 22 percent (25,681) with 83.6 percent of the increase in St. Paul. St. Paul

Proportion of children living with one or both parents

Race	U.S. 2000	MN 2000
All children	89.6%	94.1%
White, non-Hispanic children	92.9%	95.6%
Total Minority	83.5%	86.3%
Black alone	79.6%	84.2%
Black alone or in combination	79.9%	84.4%
American Indian alone	81.6%	76.6%
American Indian alone or in combination	83.4%	79.7%
Asian and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander alone	90.4%	91.9%
Asian and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Alone or in combination	89.9%	91.9%
Two or more races	86.8%	87.7%
Hispanic or Latino	84.8%	85.7%

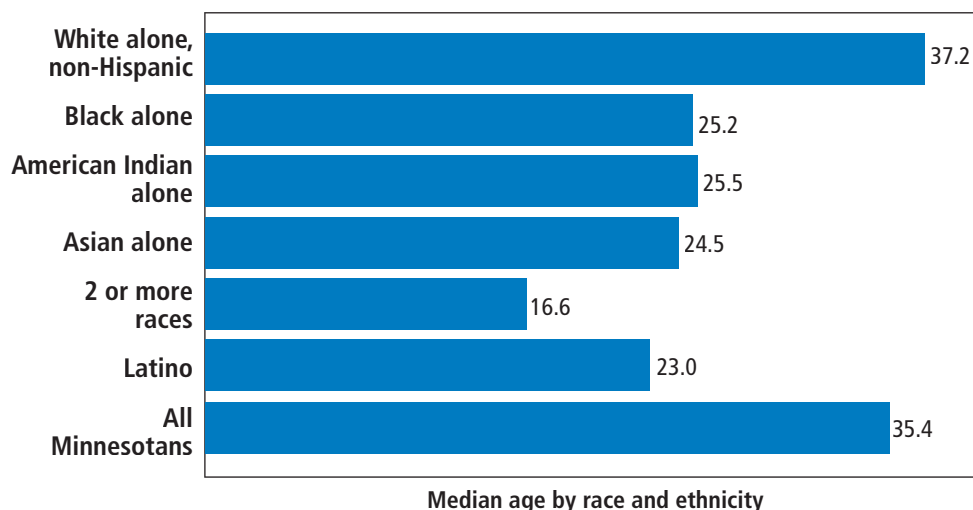
and Minneapolis accounted for 57 percent of growth in the number of minority children.

The biggest percentage increases were in Sibley,

Murray, Lyon, Le Sueur, Nobles and Todd counties; in these counties the proportion of minority children more than quadrupled. Sometimes percent change can be misleading especially in small population areas. For example, in Murray County there were 102 minority children in 2000 and 20 in 1990. But for the other five counties, the increases ranged from 1,080 in Nobles County to 261 in Todd County.

Growth in the population of minority children accounted for at least half of the increase in the number of children in 27 counties, and in 18 counties growth in the number of minority children was more than twice as large as the increased number of all children. The number of children declined in 46 counties, but the number of minority children decreased

Minority population very young

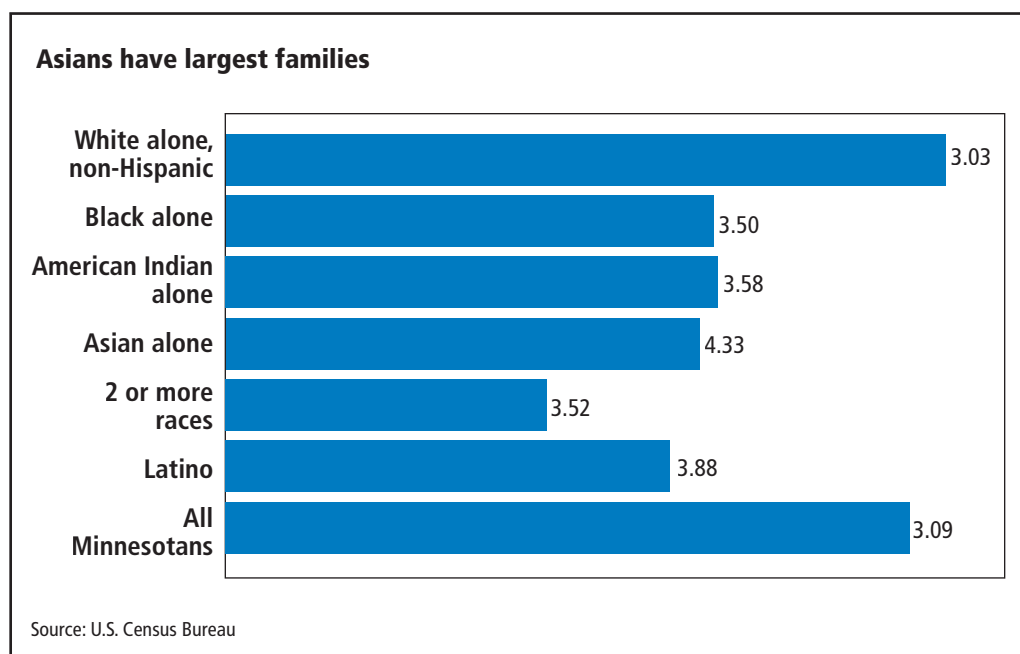


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

over the decade in only two counties – Lac Qui Parle and Koochiching.

Fewer children live with both parents

Minnesota's children are much less diverse than the nation's children, but living arrangements of Minnesota's children, for the most part, are quite similar to those of the nation. Not surprisingly, most children in Minnesota lived with one or both of their parents according to the 2000 Census, but the percentage has declined slightly since 1990. Nationally, this percentage also declined. The proportions of children living with one or both parents vary widely among racial and ethnic groups. Compared with the nation, more of Minnesota's black children live with one or both parents while fewer American Indian children do. The proportions for Asians, Hispanic and two or more race



children are about the same in Minnesota as nationally.

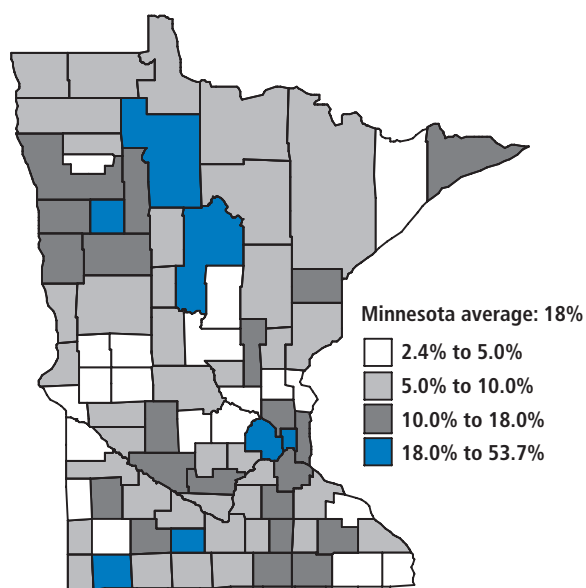
Minnesota's children were more likely to live with a single parent or with some other relative in 2000 than in 1990. Nearly one in five children (19.6 percent) lived in a single-parent family in

2000 compared with one in six (16.2 percent) in 1990. Minority children were much more likely to live in a single parent family or with relatives other than their parents. However, a smaller percentage of black children, whether race was reported as "black alone" or "black alone or in

combination" lived with a single parent in 2000 than in 1990.

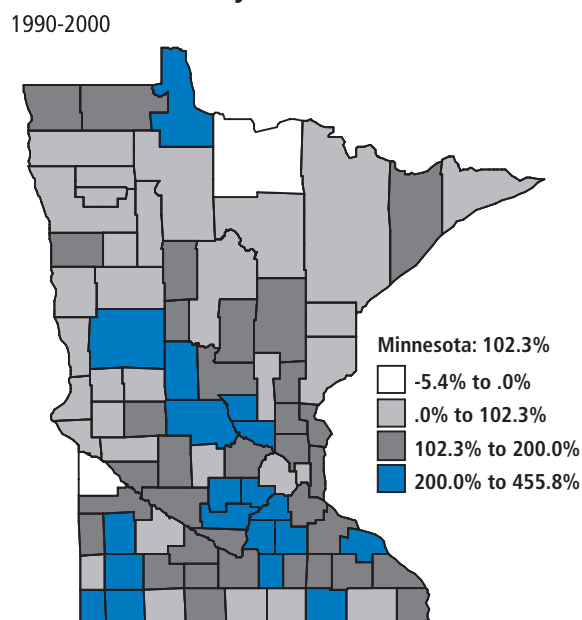
Most children who live in a single parent household live with their mother; less than 5 percent of all children live with a single father. Compared with all Minnesota children, black

Minority children as percent of all children



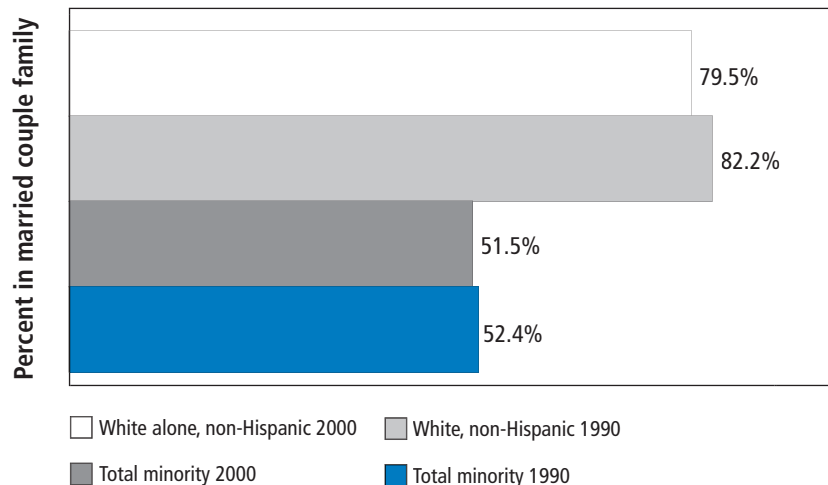
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Number of minority children doubles 1990-2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Fewer white, non-Hispanic children live in a married couple family in 2000 than in 1990



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

children are more likely to live with a single mother (47.1 percent) while American Indian children are much more likely to live with a single father (10.2 percent).

In Beltrami, Mahnomon and Ramsey counties, more than one-fourth of children live in single parent households. In 22 additional counties, the proportion of children in single parent households is greater than the state average. Most

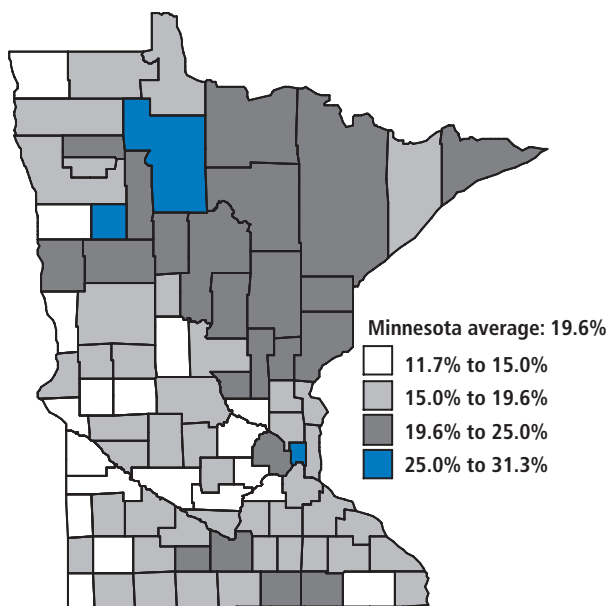
of these counties are found in the northeastern part of the state. Counties with the smallest percentage of single parent households are found in western Minnesota and the suburban counties west of the Twin Cities.

more than twice as likely to live with grandparents. For the first time in 2000, the Census asked grandparents living with their grandchildren whether they were responsible for the care of the grandchildren. In Minnesota, of the 45,217 grandparents living with grandchildren, 17,682 or 39 percent were responsible for their care. American Indian grandparents were most likely to be responsible for care of grandchildren – 57 percent, followed by grandparents of more than one race (54 percent) and black grandparents (52 percent). Asian grandparents were least likely to be responsible for their grandchildren (23 percent).

Counties with the highest proportion of grandparents responsible for the grandchildren's care are in Greater Minnesota, but in most of these counties the total number of grandparents living with their grandchildren is less than 100. In counties with at least 200 grandparents living with grandchildren, Winona County had the highest proportion responsible for their care followed by Otter Tail, Beltrami and Cass counties. Twin Cities metro counties all had percentages less than the state average.

Less than two percent of children live with non-relatives, a category that includes foster homes. However, for black, American Indian and Hispanic children the rate is about twice as high. Very few Minnesota children live in group quarters, and those who do are fairly evenly divided between institutional facilities (2,393) and non-institutional facilities (2,523). Institutional group quarters provide

Proportion of children in single parent families

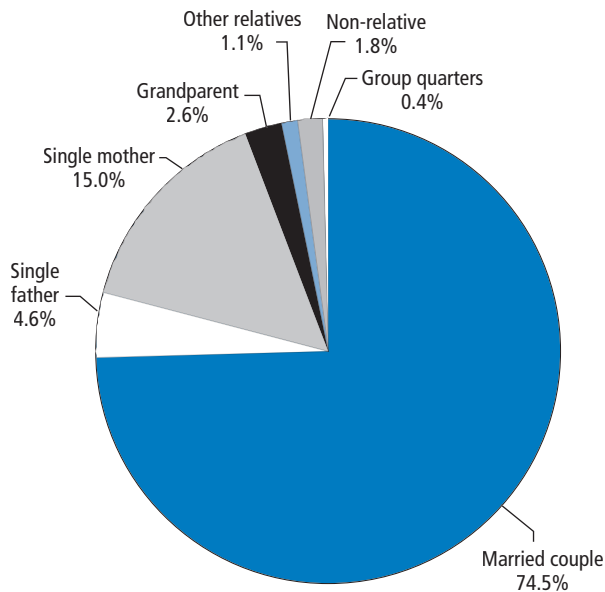


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

American Indian children most likely to live with non-parents

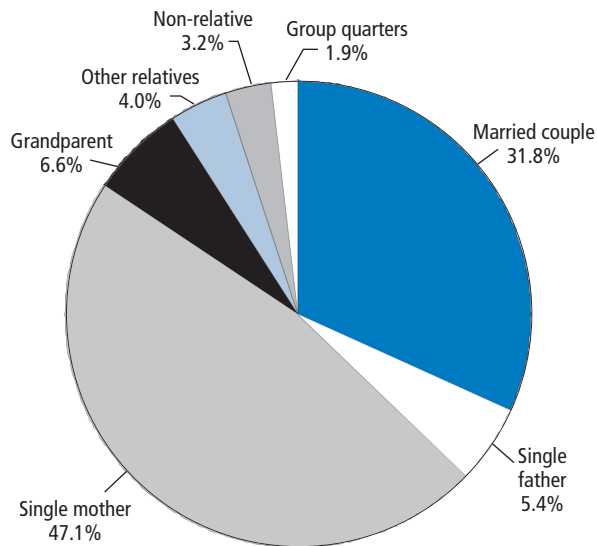
Only 3.7 percent of children live with relatives other than their parents, including grandparents. However, American Indian children are far more likely (15.4 percent) to live with other relatives. About ten percent of black and Hispanic children live with other relatives. For white, black, American Indian and children of two or more races, that relative was most often a grandparent. Less than three percent of Minnesota children lived with a grandparent, but American Indian children were more than four times as likely to live with grandparents. Black and multi-race children were

About 3/4 of children live with both parents



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Nearly half of black* children live with a single mother



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

*Black alone

supervised care or custody and include correctional facilities, nursing homes, and mental hospitals. Non-institutional group quarters include college dormitories, military barracks, group homes, missions,

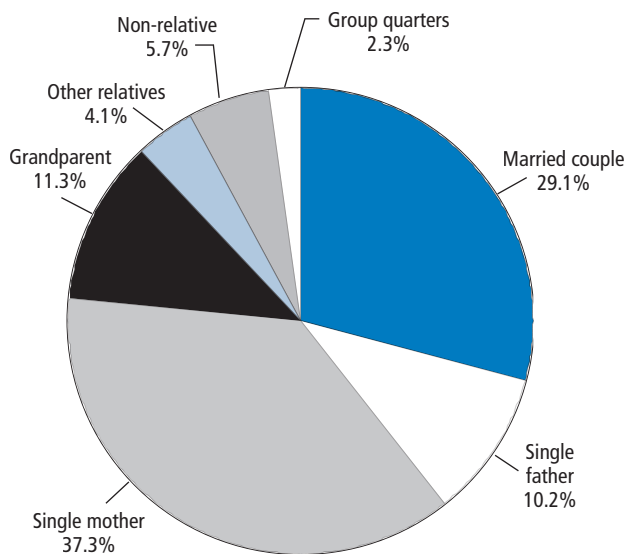
and shelters. Geographic distribution of children in group quarters reflects the location of the facilities, not the county of origin of the children.

American Indian children are most likely to live in group quarters followed by black children. For all other racial and ethnic groups, fewer than one percent of children live in group quarters.

Poverty rates fall in all but 3 counties

Poverty rates for children fell markedly in the 1990s, a result of a strong economy with very high employment throughout

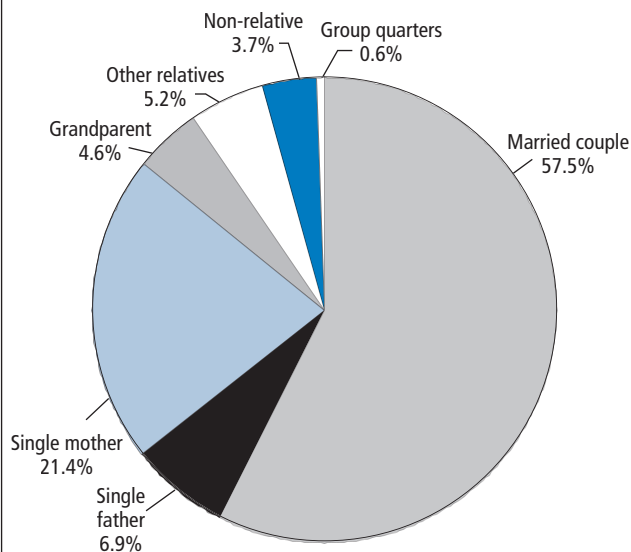
One in five American Indian* children lives with father or grandparent



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

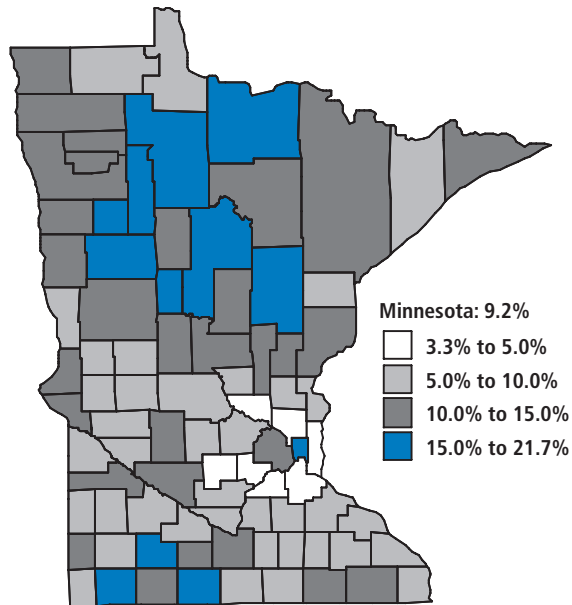
*American Indian or Alaska Native alone

More than one quarter of Hispanic children live with single parents



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Poverty rate for children



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

the state. The overall poverty rate for related children under 18 in Minnesota was 9.2 percent, or a decline of 3.2 percent since the 1990 Census. In north central Minnesota,

Mahnomen, Cass, Clearwater, Aitkin and Hubbard counties had declines greater than 9 percent. Poverty rates in 35 counties were more than 5 percent lower in 2000. In 1990,

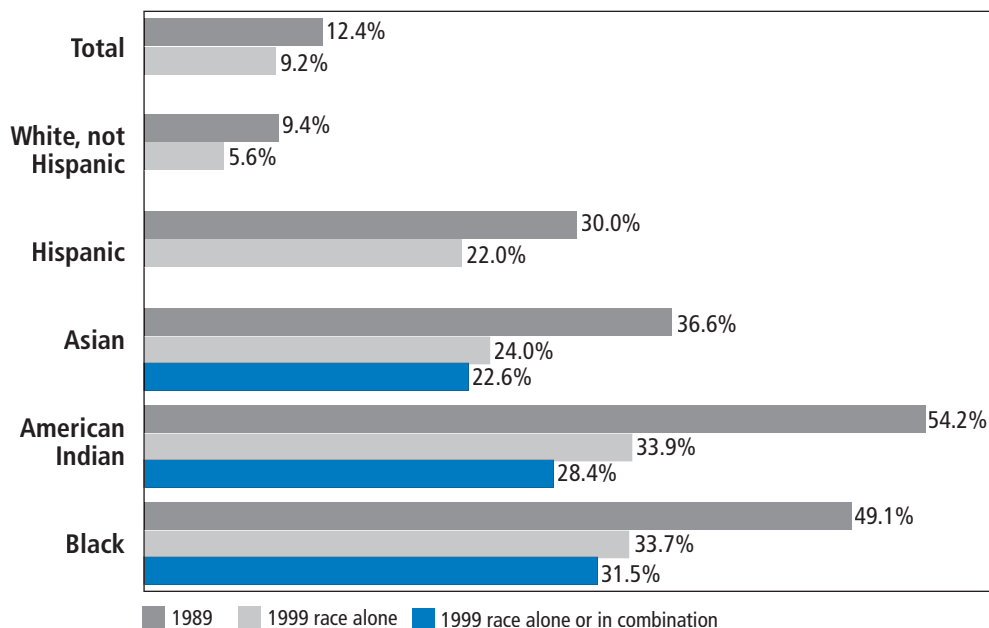
counties with the highest child poverty rates were in north central Minnesota, especially counties with large American Indian populations. In 2000, those same counties continued to have high child poverty rates, but four of those same counties saw declines in double digits. Counties with the highest child poverty rates in 2000 included Beltrami, Mahnomen and Clearwater counties. In Cottonwood, Nobles and Martin counties in southwestern Minnesota, child poverty rates increased. Child poverty rates in Ramsey and Hennepin counties were much higher than in the surrounding suburban counties. Ramsey County's rate of 15.7 percent ranked 8th highest in the state. Hennepin County's rate was 10.5 percent. In both counties the rate declined from 1990, but remained about twice as high as suburban counties.

High poverty rates are concentrated in north central

and southwestern Minnesota counties, but these rates are somewhat misleading. In fact, 41 percent of all children living below the poverty level in 1999 were in Hennepin and Ramsey counties. Thirty percent of all children live in these counties. The five suburban counties, by contrast, have only 10 percent of children living below the poverty level but 23 percent of all children.

Child poverty rates reflect changes in the population as well as the booming economy of the 1990s. In counties in southwestern Minnesota, large increases in immigrant population probably led to higher poverty rates. American Indian areas of the state continue to struggle with low income and high poverty. Ramsey County with a high proportion of immigrants has poverty rates only slightly lower than the north central counties, and just 0.4 percent less than Koochiching County – a county that lost population and struggled economically in the 1990s.

Poverty rates declined for all children* but are much higher for minority children



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

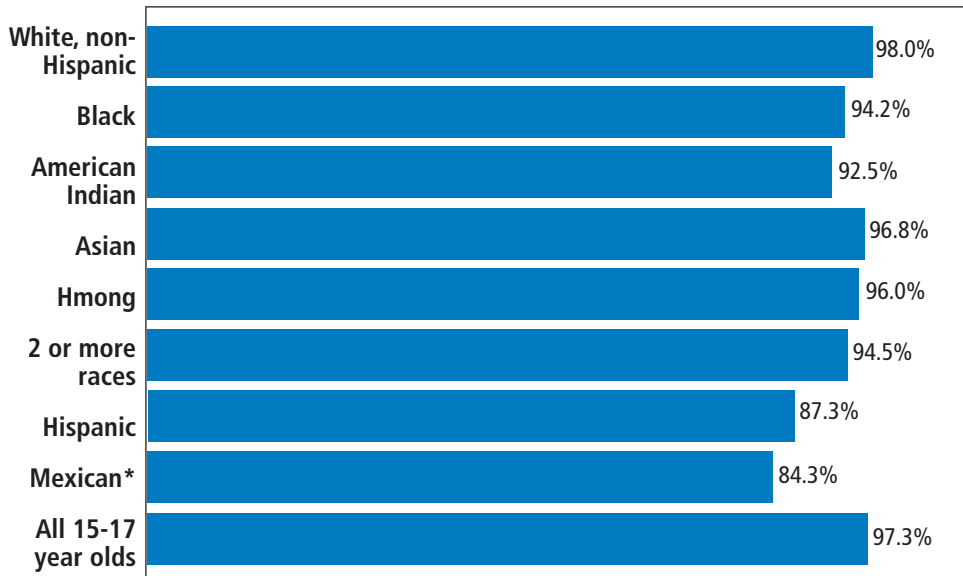
*Related children under 18

Hmong (alone) children have the highest poverty rates at 36.9 percent, but the rate for all Asian children (alone or in combination with another race) is much lower – 22.6 percent. More than three in ten black (alone or in combination with another race) children and nearly as many American Indian (alone or in combination with another race) children live below the poverty line.

While poverty rates dropped in all populations and in all but three counties, the ratio of poverty rates of minority populations compared with white populations increased. Poverty rates for minority

Latino teens least likely to be in school

Population 15 to 17 years old, race alone



*Mexican is a specific Hispanic category in the Census and may imply ancestry, nationality, or country of birth of the person or person's parents or ancestors prior to their arrival in the United States.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

times as high as married couple families with children.

Latino teens less likely to graduate

Most Minnesota children aged 5 through 19 attend school. In 2000, 95 percent of children in this age range were enrolled. Enrollment percentages for minority children tend to be close to those for the total population with the exception of Latino children. Less than 88 percent of Latino children ages 5 through 19 are enrolled in school. The proportions are even lower for Mexican children.

Preschool enrollment (children ages 3 and 4) varies widely. Overall about 45 percent of children in this age range are enrolled in school. But only 26 percent of Hmong preschoolers attend school and only 39 percent of Latino preschoolers. For all other ethnic and racial groups, the proportion ranges from 40 to 46 percent.

children range from 3.3 (Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (alone or in combination) children) to 6.6 (Hmong alone children) times as high as for white, non-Hispanic children. In 1990, the ratios ranged from 3.2 for Hispanic children to 5.8 for American Indian children.

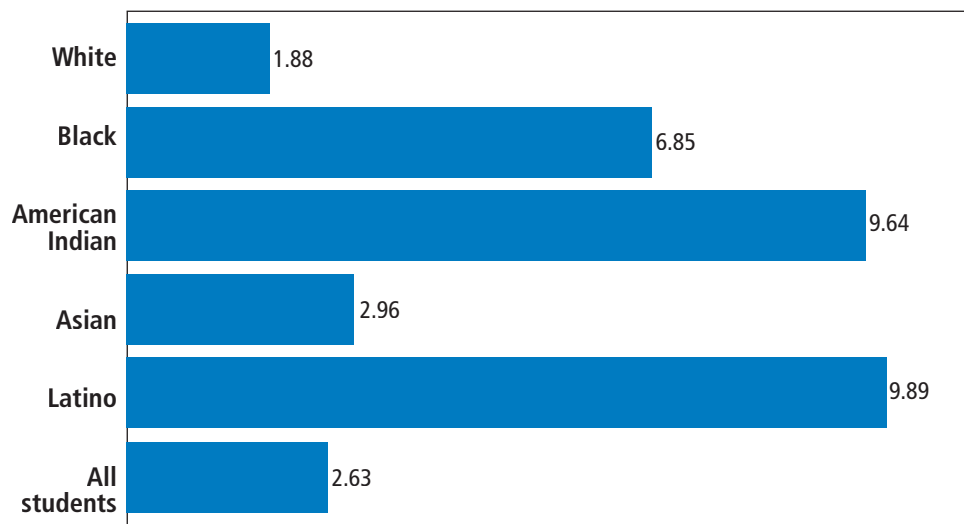
Scott County, the rate (12.1 percent) is four times that of all Minnesota families with children. Single father families

with children have lower poverty rates – 12.3 percent in 1999, much lower than for single mothers but nearly four

Poverty rates continue high among single mother families. One in four single mother families with children under age 18 lived below the poverty line in 1999. The poverty rate for single mother families with children is twice that of single father families with children, 5 times as high as all families and 8 times as high as married couple families with children. The highest rates of poverty for single mother families with children are found in western and northern Minnesota. The lowest rates are in suburban Scott, Washington and Dakota counties. But even in

Dropout rates for minority teens 3 times as high as white teens

Population in grades 7 through 12



*The grade 7-12 enrollment is included with an index (percentage) computed by totaling the reported dropouts for that year and dividing by the October 1 enrollment for grades 7-12.

Source: MN Dept. of Education

Children between the ages of 5 and 14 are almost always enrolled with very little variation in the percentages between racial and ethnic groups. However, for children ages 15 through 17, the percentage enrolled drops markedly for Latino teens. Enrollment of white, non-Hispanic teens is at 98 percent, while the rate for Mexican teens is 84 percent, and for all Latino teens 87 percent.

About 61 percent of older teens (ages 18 and 19) are enrolled in school, but the proportions for Latino teens are much smaller with 44 percent for all Latinos and 38 percent for Mexican teens, or half the rate of white non-Hispanic teens. Enrollment for older teens reflects both high school and college attendance, and the rates for Asian and white, non-Hispanic teens are comparable — 76 percent. For black, American Indian and multi-race teens, the proportions range from 55 percent for American Indian teens to 63 percent for multi-race teens.

Data on dropouts from the Minnesota Department of Education corroborates the enrollment data from the Census. Minority children are much more likely to drop out of school, and the rates for Latinos are the highest. In the 2001-2002 school year, the dropout rate for Latinos was nearly ten percent, and almost as high for American Indian students. Overall dropout rates were 2.63 percent, and 1.88 percent for white students.

Dropout rates for minority students are about two and a half times as large as the overall rate. The highest dropout rates for minority

students are in districts with high percentages of American Indian students. (Note — only districts with at least 100 minority students in grades 7 through 12 were considered.) For six districts — all located in Greater Minnesota — dropout rates among minority students exceeded one in eight. And dropout rates for minority students were as many as 12 points higher than the district rate.

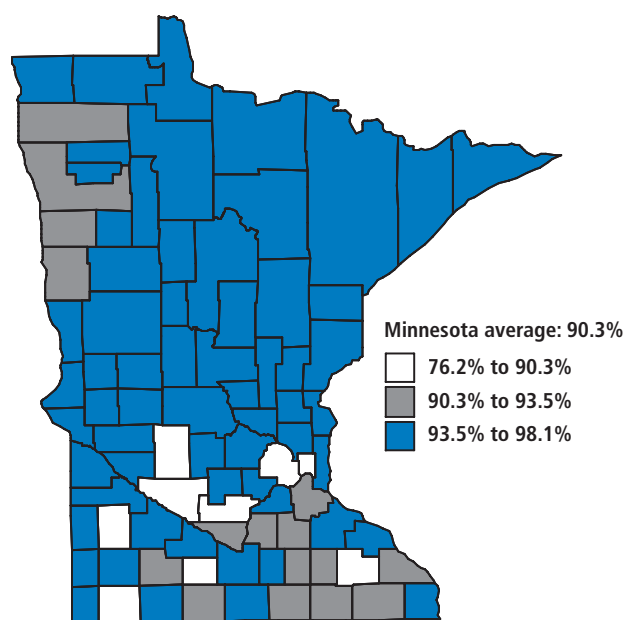
More children are linguistically isolated

About 90 percent of Minnesota's children speak only English, and in nine counties, the percentage is lower than the state average. In Ramsey County, 76 percent of children speak only English. Hennepin County is the only other metropolitan county below the state average; the other counties are in southern Minnesota.

The number of children living in linguistically isolated households in 2000 has grown to nearly 24,000 up from less than 10,000 in 1990. More than 70 percent lived in Hennepin, Ramsey and Dakota counties. Almost half of these children live in households where an Asian or Pacific Island language is spoken, and another 30 percent live in households where Spanish is spoken. About 11 percent of linguistically isolated children live in households where languages other than Spanish, Indo-European or Asian languages are spoken. This other languages group includes African languages, but the Census does not aggregate the data by individual African languages.

Most children* speak only English

2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

*Children 5 to 17 years old

Data note on race: For purposes of this analysis, minority children include all children who reported their race as black, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, native Hawaiian, some other race or more than one race or who reported ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino (any race, including white). Because respondents to the 2000 Census had the option of reporting more than one race, data for individual races appears as two numbers, the first reflecting respondents who reported only one race (e.g., Asian alone), and the second reflecting respondents who reported the race alone or in combination with other races. Direct comparisons for individual racial groups with data from 1990 are problematic. It is impossible to know how those who answered with multiple races in 2000 answered in 1990. When population numbers used are for race alone or in combination, the percentage

may add to more than one hundred. The data for race alone or in combination was used in this report to give a better picture of the American Indian population which has a high proportion of individuals reporting more than one race. The proportion of multiple race persons in Minnesota is low — about 3.4 percent of children and 1.7 percent of all Minnesotans. The definition of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity has not changed since 1990, and direct comparisons can be made with 1990 Hispanic data.

Note on living arrangements: The census reports data on the living arrangements of children and includes all persons under 18 years of age. Living arrangements of children are defined by the relationship of the child to the head of household. In some cases, this definition may result in classifying some children living with a parent and a head of household (not the parent)

as living with a non-parent. For example, if the child lives with its mother or father in the child's grandparents household, the child is reported as the grandchild of the householder. Nonetheless, in this case, the child lives with a parent. Masking of parental relationships is probably not frequent in the data. The 2000 Census reported a total of 18,379 subfamilies with children in Minnesota, 2,399 are married couple families with own children, 11,736 are mother-child families and 4,304 are father-child families.

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